

## Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 /017 W

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P 210809Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2720

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, SY

SUBJECT: SELECTED SALARY INFORMATION

REF: STATE 036983

1. SALARIES FOR SYRIAN GOVERNMENT POSITIONS LISTED REFTEL  
INCREASED FROM LEVELS INDICATED ON PAGE 183 OF STATISTICAL  
ABSTRACT FOR SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC (1974) WHICH AVAILABLE  
IN NEA/ARN. NEW MONTHLY LEVELS ARE INDICATED BELOW, WITH  
DOLLAR EQUIVALENTS (AT \$1.00 EQUALS L.S. 3.65)

SHOWN IN PARENTHESES. AS REQUESTED, WE HAVE NOT APPROACHED  
SARG ON THIS SUBJECT AND HAVE RELIED ON STATISTICAL AB-  
STRACT AND KNOWLEDGE OF FSL EMPLOYEES OF EMBASSY. THERE-  
FORE WISH TO CAUTION THAT THESE ARE ONLY BASE FIGURES AND  
WE HAVE NO WAY TO ESTIMATE ADDITIONS ON TOP OF SALARIES  
SHOWN OTHER THAN THOSE INDICATED.

A. US CABINET SECRETARY, EQUIVALENT TO SARG MINISTER:  
LS 1,600. PLUS LS 100 REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCE, FOR TOTAL  
OF LS 1,700 (\$466); PLUS FAMILY ALLOWANCE OF LS 20 FOR EACH CHILD  
(\$5.48),  
PLUS UNKNOWN OFFICIAL AMOUNT FOR "PRIVATE EXPENSES" WHICH  
NOT SHOWN ON PUBLISHED SALARY SCALES, NOR IS THIS IDENTIFIABLE  
LINE ITEM IN BUDGET. ALSO PROVIDED CAR AND DRIVER.

B. DEPUTY SECRETARY/UNDER SECRETARY, EQUIVALENT TO  
SARG DEPUTY MINISTER: PAID ACCORDING TO GRADE AND STEP  
WITHIN TENURED CIVIL SERVANT SCALE (NOTED BELOW). DEUPTY  
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MINISTERS IN ECONOMIC SECTORS ESTIMATED TO BE IN TOP SECOND

AND THIRD TENURED RANKS, LS 1458 TO 1,676 (\$399 TO \$459;  
SEE DISTRIBUTION BY NUMBER AND MINISTRY ON PP 182-3 OF ABSTRACT);  
NO REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCE AS FOR MINISTER, BUT DO RECEIVE  
LS 20/CHILD FAMILY ALLOWANCE.

C. DEPUTY ASSITANT SECRETARY, EQUIVALENT TO  
DIRECTOR OF A MINISTRY'S DEPARTMENT: PAID WITHIN TENURED  
CIVIL SERVANT SCALE AND DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE AN AVERAGE.  
PERHAPS A GUESS WOULD BE AT THIRD HIGHEST STEP, LS 1,458 TO  
1,566 (\$366 TO \$429), PLUS LS 20/ CHILD FAMILY ALLOWANCE.

D. CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT, EQUIVALENT TO CENTRAL BANK  
GOVERNOR: SAME BASIC SALARY AND ALLOWANCES AS MINISTER  
(PARA A ABOVE), BUT GOVERNOR IS ENTITLED TO VARIOUS OTHER  
UNKNOWN OFFICIAL ALLOWANCES, PLUS A "RESPONISIBILITY ALLOW-  
ANCE" WHICH WE ARE TOLD BY FSL'S MAY BE AS HIGH AS LS 500  
PER MONTH (\$137). THIS ALLOWANCE RELATES TO TRADITION IN  
CENTRAL BANK PAY SCALES FOR THOSE WHO ACTUALLY HANDLE  
MONEY. IF SHORTAGE APPEARS AT END OF DAY, SHORTAGE IS PAID  
BY EMPLOYEE (FROM CASHIER APPARENTLY ALL THE WAY UP TO  
GOVERNOR) FROM HIS OWN POCKET. IF HIS ACCOUNTS ARE CORRECT,  
THEN HE POCKETS "RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCE."

E. MEMBER OF NATIONAL LEGISLATURE: FLAT SALARY OF  
LS 1,000 (\$274).

F. TOP THREE GRADES TENURED CIVIL SERVANTS: LS  
1,678 AND ABOVE, BUT LIMIT UNKNOWN (\$460); LS 1,568 (\$430) -  
LS 1,676 (\$459); AND LS 1,458 (\$399) -LS 1,566 (\$429).  
ALSO RECEIVE LS 20/CHILD (\$5.48) ALLOWANCE.

2. TO CONVERT 1973 SALARIES SHOWN ON PPS 182-3, TABLE  
28/3 OF STATISTICAL ABSTRACT TO CURRENT SALARIES, ADD LS 75  
TO EACH SALARY (TWO RAISES IN 1974, ONE OF LS 50 AND ONE  
OF LS 25), AND THEN ADD ADDITIONAL 10 PERCENT OF RESULTANT  
TOTAL (THIRD RAISE IN 1974).  
PELLETREAU

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## Message Attributes

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